

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess until 10 a.m. today.

Accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 6 minutes a.m.), the House stood in recess until 10 a.m.

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AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California) at 10 a.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer:

Author of eternal promise and God of mercy, You know, full well, that our human nature is fraught with limitations and wounded by sin. The result is that peace in this world is never finally established or lasts forever. The building of a peaceful society has to go on all the time, day after day.

Lord, continue Your work in us. In and through this representative democracy keep this Nation ever vigilant to secure the peace. By the outpouring of Your grace may each person of this our homeland struggle to control one's passions, be willing to trust others, as well as share human talents and riches with the less fortunate.

May our true growth in becoming Your beloved community spread around the globe and give You glory both now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House her approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. GINGREY) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. GINGREY led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 1347. An act to amend the Omnibus Indian Advancement Act to modify the date as of which certain tribal land of the Lytton Rancheria of California is deemed to be held

in trust and to provide for the conduct of certain activities on the land.

DEMOCRATS PRIORITIZE
VETERANS NEEDS

(Mr. WALZ of Minnesota asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WALZ of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, as this Nation prepares to honor our veterans on Veterans Day, this new Democratic Congress has shown an unwavering commitment to those who have served this Nation so bravely.

We have passed a Wounded Warrior Assistance Act that takes the first steps to address the problems brought to light in the Walter Reed scandal by improving outpatient medical care and restoring efficiency by cutting bureaucratic red tape.

We have passed legislation that focuses on posttraumatic stress disorder by requiring a program to reduce suicide among veterans with suicide prevention counselors at all medical facilities.

And we have passed a veterans appropriation bill that provides the largest investment in veterans health care in the 77-year history of the VA. We plan on sending that funding bill to the President's desk this week after a vote on this floor today.

Madam Speaker, a budget is far more than a fiscal document. It is a reflection of this Nation's values. America's veterans bravely served this Nation and were promised health care to meet the needs to take care of them once they returned home. This new Democratic Congress is committed to fulfilling that pledge.

WORLD BANK SUBSIDIZING
AHMADINEJAD

(Mr. KIRK asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, three blocks from our White House, the World Bank is subsidizing the administration of Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad. Last year the World Bank cut a \$220 million check to the Government of Iran. After two U.N. sanctions, the World Bank paid another \$50 million to Iran in August. According to the bank, they have another \$820 million on the way. World Bank funding is paid through Iran's Bank Mali, which the U.S. Government has now found to be a conduit for terrorist financing. Over \$5 million of World Bank funds are now frozen in Bank Mali's accounts.

It is hard enough for the United Nations to sanction a country, but it has now sanctioned Iran twice. That united voice of the United Nations should not be undercut by a \$800 million check in funding by the World Bank to Iran.

RESTORE DEMOCRACY IN
PAKISTAN

(Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker and Members of the House, President Bush must take a strong stand on the actions of President Musharraf in Pakistan. The constitution of Pakistan must be restored, and democratic rule must be given back to the people. If we fail to do that, then democracy fails in Pakistan and we will see the exact environment in which the Taliban, terrorists, al Qaeda and others are born. Witness Egypt and Saudi Arabia.

The restoration of democracy immediately must be high on the agenda of the Bush administration. Failure to do so turns Pakistan into an armed dictatorship with a nuclear weapon.

We have spent tens of billions of dollars in Pakistan to encourage their fight against terrorism and the Taliban. And what have we gotten in return? We now see that the military has started businesses with that money. They have used it to pad their retirement accounts. They have used it to run their private businesses rather than to defend the country and prosecute the war against al Qaeda, the Taliban, and other terrorists that are now in northern Pakistan.

The choice is this administration's. They can speak out forcefully for democracy, or they can watch it wither on the vine and we will have another failed state in exactly a region where we don't need one.

SEND MILCON-VA TO PRESIDENT'S
DESK

(Mrs. BLACKBURN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, if my grandmother were standing here today, she would say your actions are speaking so loudly I cannot hear one single word you are saying. And she would be saying that about the mistreatment of our veterans by this majority.

It has been over 140 days since the House passed the MilCon-VA appropriations bill and 8 weeks since the slow-moving Senate passed it. The bill has strong bipartisan support and the President has poised his pen ready to sign that bill.

Well, now the Democrats have decided they are going to delay it. They are going to play politics with it. They are going to pile on other things around it. And they are doing it to use it as a political tool. How very, very sad we find this situation.

We need to make certain that a political tool is not made of our veterans and our men and women in uniform. They have sacrificed so much for this country. It is imperative that we move